

REMARKS

The claims have been amended so as to sharpen their definition of the invention relative to the cited references.

The claims now require that it is an end portion of the two-axis hinge unit that is exposed outside the terminal and that the information input device is mounted in that end portion. See particularly Fig. 3 of the drawings of the present application. There, the two-axis hinge unit is shown in detail, there being an axis 301 of horizontal swinging movement, and an axis 302 of vertical swinging movement, which is to say opening and closing movement.

The end portion in question, of this two-axis hinge unit, is an end of the part 301, covered by the member 320. No matter what the position of the parts, 320 is always exposed, and because it is an information input device, the inputting of information is thus made possible in any vertically or horizontally swung position of the parts.

Reconsideration is accordingly respectfully requested, for the rejection of the claims as unpatentable over NISHIMURA in view of GAULD et al., or further in view of SCHMITT et al. or KIM, or further in view of IKEDA et al. or WADA et al.

The rejection falls down on NISHIMURA. In NISHIMURA, there are indeed swinging movements of the parts about two axes. One axis is shown at 3, and the other axis is shown at 11.

In NISHIMURA, however, the information input device is mounted on the side face of the part connecting the two folding axes of NISHIMURA, and hence not in an end portion of the two-axis hinge unit.

This distinction is now clearly brought out in claim 1, which is thereby patentably vitalized.

The claims that depend from claim 1 are patentable by virtue of that dependency, and also because of the further features of novelty that they separately recite.

The secondary references may show the features for which they were cited, but as none of these overcome the fundamental deficiencies of NISHIMURA for reference purposes, as set forth above, it is not believed to be necessary to discuss the secondary references at this time.

In view of the present amendment and the foregoing remarks, therefore, it is believed that this application has been placed in condition for allowance, and reconsideration and allowance are respectfully requested.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized in this, concurrent, and future replies, to charge payment or credit any

overpayment to Deposit Account No. 25-0120 for any additional fees required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.16 or under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17.

Respectfully submitted,

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